<center>REMARKS</center>

Claims 1, 3-10 and 12-29 are currently pending in the subject application and are presently under consideration. Claims 1, 10 and 29 have been amended as shown on pp. 2-6 of the Reply. Claims 24-27 have been canceled.

Applicant's representative thanks the Examiner for the courtesies extended during the teleconference of February 5, 2007.

Since the amended limitations merely emphasize subject matter as originally claimed, these limitations should already have been considered during an initial search in connection with the subject application. Pursuant to MPEP §714.13, applicant's representative submits that the amendments to these claims "only requires a cursory review by the Examiner" and thus, entry and consideration thereof is respectfully requested.

Favorable reconsideration of the subject patent application is respectfully requested in view of the comments and amendments herein.

I.   Rejection of Claims 10, 12-27 and 29 Under 35 U.S.C. §101

Claims 10, 12-27 and 29 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 because the claimed subject matter is directed to non-statutory subject matter. Claim 10 has been amended to include a result to the end-user of the analysis. Specifically, claim 10 has been amended to include the limitation "displaying results of learning first and second Bayesian networks", as required by the Examiner. Moreover, claims 24-27 have been canceled, as such this rejection is moot with respect to claims 24-27. Accordingly, this rejection should be withdrawn.

II.   Rejection of Claims 10, 12-23 and 29 Under 35 U.S.C §112, second paragraph

Claims 10, 12-23 and 29 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being incomplete for omitting essential elements, such omission amounting to a gap between the elements. Claims 10, 12-23 and 29 have been amended to include the omitted element of "means for displaying results of learning Bayesian networks or displaying results". Accordingly, this rejection should be withdrawn.

III.   Rejection of Claims 1, 3-10 and 12-28 Under 35 U.S.C §112, second paragraph

Claims 1, 3-10 and 12-28 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claims 1, 10, 24 and 27 have been amended as specified by the Examiner. Therefore, this rejection should be withdrawn.

IV.   Rejection of Claims 24-27 Under 35 U.S.C §102(b)

Claims 24-27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Hulten *et al.*, *Learning Bayesian Networks From Dependency Networks: A Preliminary Study*. Claims 24-27 have been canceled. As such, this rejection is moot and should be withdrawn.

V.   Rejection of Claims 24-27 Under 35 U.S.C §102(e)

Claims 24-27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Pelikan *et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 7,047,169). Claims 24-27 have been canceled. As such, this rejection is moot and should be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

The present application is believed to be in condition for allowance in view of the above comments and amendments. A prompt action to such end is earnestly solicited.

In the event any fees are due in connection with this document, the Commissioner is authorized to charge those fees to Deposit Account No. 50-1063 [MSFTP575US].

Should the Examiner believe a telephone interview would be helpful to expedite favorable prosecution, the Examiner is invited to contact applicant's undersigned representative at the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,

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